

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, the disclosure was objected to because the specification was not provided with section headings. In response, Applicant acknowledges the suggestion to add headings, but respectfully declines to add such headings as they are not required in accordance with MPEP §608.01(a).

On the merits, Claims 8 and 17 were deemed to be allowable if placed in independent form, while the remaining claims were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Akiyama et al, for the reasons of record. In response, Claims 1, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 18 are herewith amended in order to more clearly and precisely define the instant invention, and the currently-pending claims, as herein amended are respectfully submitted to be clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference for the reasons detailed below.

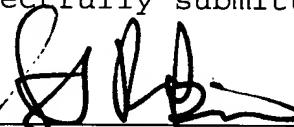
As amended, all of the independent claims now contain a limitation relating to delay means connected in series with interference removal means or using a delayed version of the signal generated by introducing a delay into the signal. It is respectfully submitted that such delay means are neither shown nor suggested by element 14 of Akiyama, which is shown and described as simply a low pass filter, with no indication that this filter has been configured to introduce a meaningful signal delay and thereby perform the delay function as contemplated by the instant

invention. Furthermore, absent the benefit of impermissible hindsight derived from the instant disclosure, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be induced to configure the low pass filter of Akiyama in such a manner as to create a delay circuit, without impermissible undo experimentation.

In view of the foregoing it is respectfully submitted that all of the currently pending claims are now in condition for allowance and accordingly allowable claims 8 and 17 have not been placed in independent form at this time, pending a final determination of the patentability of the remaining claims.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

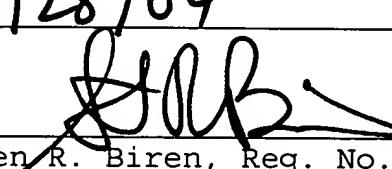
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